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## REPORT ON THE WM. S. VAUX COLLECTIONS.

The Curator of the William S. Vaux Collection begs leave to report that since November 30th, 1896 he has added to it by purchase one hundred and twenty-five specimens. Although the number is not as large as in former years, yet the quality of the specimens is better, a number of them being species new to the collection including several extra fine large crystals.

As reported by the Curators several fine new cases were purchased during 1897 for the display of the various large specimens which had formerly been exposed.

The collection now numbers 8,091 specimens all in good order with the exception of two marcasites which have decomposed.

There have been no additions to the Archæological Collection since my last report though it continues to attract much attention from visitors.

WM. W. JEFFERIS,  
*Curator.*

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## REPORT OF THE BIOLOGICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

The Section has held ten meetings during the year. The new room upon the second floor has been partially furnished and the collections placed therein. It is expected that upon the completion of anticipated improvements the accommodations for biological investigations may be made of permanent value to the members and increase the interest of the stated meetings.

During the year numerous communications have been made, of which the following were presented at the meetings of the Academy:—

“On the Structure of Diatoms,” by Mr. F. J. Keeley.

“Observations on Errant Frustules of *Eunotia major*,” and  
“Conjugation of *Closterium acerosum*,” by Mr. T. Chalkley Palmer.

“New Species of Diatoms,” by Mr. Charles S. Boyer.

“On *Isthemia nervosa* in Hudson Strait,” by Mr. John A. Shulze.

“Old and New Microscopes and Methods of Preparation,” by Dr. J. Cheston Morris.

Other communications of interest were made by Dr. Morris, Mr. Holman and Mr. Woolman.